

IN HONOR OF SELF HELP
ENTERPRISES**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Self Help Enterprises on the organization's 40th Anniversary of dedicated service to rural communities of California's San Joaquin Valley.

Self Help Enterprises' (SHE) efforts are based upon the simple principle of providing the tools necessary for individuals to help themselves succeed. SHE assists rural residents, primarily farmworkers, in a variety of housing needs. Offering technical assistance, helping people to compete for scarce resources and empowering individuals has been the main focus of this community oriented non-profit.

The beginnings of Self Help Enterprises can be traced back to 1964 when President Johnson launched the "War on Poverty" with the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. This legislation provided a much needed source of federal funding to help combat the devastating effects of continuous economic hardship. Self Help Enterprises originated in 1965 as the first rural self-help housing organization in the nation and shortly thereafter received its first of many grants from the United States Office of Economic Opportunity.

Since then SHE has been instrumental in the housing development needs throughout eight counties located in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus and Tulare.

Self Help Enterprises' volunteers, benefactors and organizers have touched the lives of numerous families who are so often overlooked by the rest of the community. The 40th Anniversary of the founding of Self Help Enterprises is a time for us to not only commemorate past efforts, but also look toward the future for innovative and novel means of helping underserved rural residents.

COMMENDING THE CONTINUING
IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the visit of the Prime Minister of India on the occasion of his visit to Washington. Prime Minister Singh's visit to the United States is the first by a national Indian leader since that of Prime Minister Vajpayee in November 2001. The Prime Minister's visit comes at a critical moment for relations between the United States and India. The 21st Century has brought our democracies together as partners with shared priorities.

The United States and India share the values of democracy and diversity and are building a vital economic and strategic partnership. As the world's most populous democracy, India is an important ally of the United States.

Like the United States, India draws much of its democratic strength from its diversity. Dr. Manmohan Singh's election as Prime Minister, the first time a Sikh has been elected to this office, demonstrates that diversity. The United States and India also share the priorities of promoting global stability and combating terrorism around the globe, promoting trade and democracy, developing new technology, and combating the spread of HIV and other global health pandemics.

Relations between the United States and India are particularly important to the residents of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. We have a dynamic Indian American community in the 9th Congressional District that has shared Indian culture with our residents and made a strong contribution to our economy. While these Indian Americans are now residents and citizens of the U.S., many of them still have family in India. The close, friendly relationship developing between our countries is important to Indian Americans in my district, and beneficial to all Americans and Indians. As a member of the Congressional India Caucus, I've been pleased to see the relations between our countries improve.

I had the honor of accompanying President Clinton to India in March of 2000—the first time a U.S. President traveled to India since President Carter in 1978. That trip also served a greater purpose. President Clinton's trip to Asia represented a major initiative by that Administration and members of Congress to set U.S.-India relations on a new level of increased cooperation across a broad spectrum of issues. President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee agreed in a vision statement to institutionalize dialogue between our two countries through regular bilateral "summits." In the years following that trip, many aspects of the vision statement have been realized and our countries have drawn closer together.

Since 1991, the United States and India have forged close economic relations. As India has liberalized its economy, it has become a more important trading partner for the United States. India has invested both in its businesses and its workers, fighting poverty while growing its economy at a steady, sustainable rate. Our economic relationship with India is sure to expand in the time to come.

India is an important strategic partner to the United States. After our country was attacked on September 11th, India quickly rushed to America's side to offer its full support to combat the terrorists and use of its bases for counterterrorism operations. India is a critical ally of geopolitical importance to the United States on the Asian continent. India is a partner in our efforts to work towards a more peaceful world, and has recently taken encouraging steps towards peace with Pakistan. The growing military partnership between the United States and India is a sign of our shared strategic priorities.

While India faces many challenges today, such as continued mass poverty and an HIV/AIDS epidemic, I will work closely with the Indian American community in my district, with my colleagues on the India Caucus and in the Congress as a whole to ensure that the United States continues to support India as it faces those challenges that threaten its development.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Prime Minister Singh for continuing to strengthen the relationship between the United States and India. A close

relationship between our countries will help promote security, peace, and economic prosperity around the globe.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM
PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mr. MACK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my thoughts and concerns regarding the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act (H.R. 3199). This legislation—though controversial since it was originally signed into law in 2001—is an important and effective tool for combating and winning the war on terrorism. However, it is the duty of this body to err on the side of freedom and that is why I support commonsense legislative oversight of this law.

Four years ago, Congress came together to provide law enforcement and intelligence officials with sweeping powers to increase intelligence-gathering abilities and information sharing in the name of fighting terrorism. This was a wise and prudent choice. However, due to the legitimate concerns raised about the powers this law puts into the hands of government and the need to be mindful of the liberty we are sworn to uphold, sunset provisions were attached to the original law to ensure there would be a judicious review of the law and how it has been implemented. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker: sunset provisions do not weaken the law, nor do they undermine its purpose or its execution.

Last night, during the debate on the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act (H.R. 3199), a Motion to Recommit was offered that included instructions to extend the current sunset provisions on the sixteen most controversial provisions from 2005 to 2009. Two hundred and nine of my colleagues voted "yea" on this Motion to Recommit. I intended to vote "yea," however, due to a technical malfunction, my vote was not recorded in the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Regrettably, because the Motion to Recommit failed (209 to 218), the legislation contained only two limited 10-year sunsets. Thus, in the spirit of freedom, liberty, and limited government, I voted against the final passage of the House-version of the PATRIOT Act reauthorization.

Detractors of sunset provisions state there has not been any evidence of widespread abuse of any of the PATRIOT Act's provisions. But, as leaders, we are supposed to have the gift of foresight. By making the law permanent at this time, we will handcuff the ability of Congress to carry out a constitutionally-mandated power legislative oversight. Why should we not review this Act in four year's time? Having an intelligent debate to weigh the accomplishments of the bill is a smart undertaking now, just as it will be in 2009.

History tells us that in times of war or conflict, government is all too willing to ask its citizens to trade a bit of their liberty for the hope